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Republican Calls for 10% Defense Boost

Washington—Restoring U. S. military and intelligence capability will require several years of spending increases 10% above inflation, a Republican defense expert said here last week. President Carter is proposing a 5.6% increase for next year and roughly 4% for each of several years thereafter.

John Lehman, former deputy director of the U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, presented his list of U. S. military and intelligence deficiencies to the GOP Temporary Platform Committee Jan. 15 on Capitol Hill.

The canceled Rockwell B-1 bomber has no replacement, MX missile deployment is delayed, master sergeants and majors cannot qualify for home mortgages, poorly trained fighter pilots are causing accidents faster than the Defense Dept. is buying new aircraft and only one of three Army Ready Reserve billets is filled, he said.

The testimony of Lehman and several others came on the first stop of a 10-city tour of the country planned by the platform panel, headed by Sen. John Tower (R.-Tex.).

Fred Ikle, former director of the arms control agency, said the Soviets are increasing their rate of arms buildup by 4% a year and they were spending twice as much as the U. S. some time ago.

Ikle said President Carter's change of heart about ultimate goals of the Soviets after the Afghanistan invasion "did not go deep enough." Ikle illustrated Soviet intentions by saying: "Aden [the capital of South Yemen] is now as well controlled by Soviet advance teams, as was Kabul before Christmas Day."

Richard Allen, former Nixon aide, said the U. S. must build up its foreign intelligence gathering capability. "Adequate safeguards exist to insure that past abuses [by U. S. intelligence agencies] will not recur," he said.